WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026

A WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026, AT 10:00 AM. THE MEETING WAS HELD IN THE COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM.

PLEASE NOTE: THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON OR JOIN TODAY'S MEETING VIA ZOOM.

ATTENDING: COMMISSIONER LARRY PADORA; COMMISSIONER BARRON HETHERINGTON; COMMISSIONER GARY HESS; 2ND DEPUTY TREASURER ALICIA BEACH; CHIEF ADULT PROBATION OFFICER C J BEGANSKY; COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER; SHERIFF SHAWN BUTLER; SENIOR BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR / INVESTIGATOR ELAINE FUCCI; ASSISTANT COORDINATOR / COMPLIANCE OFFICER CHERYL FUSS; DIRECTOR OF FINANCE GLENN GEISSINGER; BLOCK GRANT MANAGER SHARON LOVE; DIRECTOR OF REAL ESTATE / ENGINEERING LISA MAHALL; DRUG & ALCOHOL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR JOHN REED; ASSISTANT COUNTY SOLICITOR DAVID RICE; CHILDREN & YOUTH ADMINISTRATOR 3 CARL RUMBEL; PLANNING & ZONING / GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS DIRECTOR SUSAN SMITH; CONTROLLER SHARYN YACKENCHICK; CHIEF TAX ASSESSOR CHRISTINE ZIMMERMAN AND CHIEF CLERK KIM MASHACK.

ABSENT: HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR ANTHONY KERN; COUNTY TREASURER LINDA YEICH

SESSION CALLED TO ORDER BY COMMISSIONER PADORA.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS HELD

THE CHIEF CLERK REPORTED THAT THERE WERE NO EXECUTIVE SESSIONS HELD.

PRESENTATION – REBECCA FORD, AMAZON WEB SERVICES – KLINE TOWNSHIP DATA CENTER PROJECT

PUBLIC COMMENT

JEFF DUNKEL, PALO ALTO, COMMENTED ON DATA CENTERS, REGISTER OF WILLS, CHILDREN & YOUTH AND THE PROTHONOTARY'S OFFICE.

CHRIS MELUSKY, NORWEGIAN TOWNSHIP, COMMENTED ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ALL BOARD MEETINGS.

LISA VON AHN, POTTSVILLE, COMMENTED ON THE PROPOSED ICE DETENTION CENTER IN TREMONT TOWNSHIP.

DAVE PLACHKO, ST. CLAIR, COMMENTED ON THE BRADS LANDFILL.

RACHAEL, ORWIGSBURG, COMMENTED ON DATA CENTERS.

SHIRLEY WAGNER, JOLIETT, COMMENTED ON THE PROPOSED ICE DETENTION CENTER IN TREMONT TOWNSHIP.

CHILDREN & YOUTH – TWO (2) ADDENDA, THREE (3) AGREEMENTS

ADMINISTRATOR 3 CARL RUMBEL REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE AGREEMENT WITH PATHWAYS ADOLESCENT CENTER, OIL CITY, PA, DATED AUGUST 27, 2025, TO ADD ADDITIONAL COMPLEX CASES PROGRAMMING AT A PER DIEM RATE OF $1,495.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE AGREEMENT WITH CHILDREN'S CHOICE INC., BELLMAWR, NJ, DATED SEPTEMBER 24, 2025, EXTENDING ITS TERM PERIOD TO INCLUDE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 AT CURRENT RATES AND TERMS WITH AN END DATE OF JUNE 30, 2027.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH KLDAVIS POLYGRAPHS, LLC, NEW COLUMBIA, PA FOR POLYGRAPH SERVICES AS FOLLOWS: POLYGRAPH EXAM AT $360 PER EXAM, NO SHOW APPOINTMENTS AT $150, AND EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY AT $850 PER DAY, WITH A TERM OF JUNE 1, 2026, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH ATTORNEY KAREN RISMILLER, POTTSVILLE, PA, FOR SOLICITOR SERVICES WITH A MONTHLY RETAINER AT $2,989.44 AND EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES AT AN HOURLY RATE OF $100. THE TERM IS JULY 1, 2026, TO JUNE 30, 2027.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH ATTORNEY MARY KATHLEEN O'CONNOR, FRACKVILLE, PA, FOR SOLICITOR SERVICES WITH A MONTHLY RETAINER AT $2,989.44 AND EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES AT AN HOURLY RATE OF $100. THE TERM IS JULY 1, 2026, TO JUNE 30, 2027.

DRUG & ALCOHOL – ONE (1) CONTRACT, ONE (1) ADDENDUM

DRUG & ALCOHOL ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR JOHN REED REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH SCHUYLKILL COMMUNITY ACTION FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 1, 2026, TO AUGUST 31, 2026. SCHUYLKILL COMMUNITY ACTION WILL BE PARTNERING WITH THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY DRUG & ALCOHOL PREVENTION TEAM TO FACILITATE THE "SUMMER BLAST PROGRAM" WITH A CONTRACT CAP OF $50,081.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE AGREEMENT WITH SAGE ACTION CONSULTING TO UPDATE THE SCOPE OF SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED IN FISCAL YEAR 2026 / 2027. AN UPDATED APPENDIX B & APPENDIX E WILL BE ATTACHED TO REFLECT THE CHANGES IN SERVICES.

GRANT WRITERS – THREE (3) CONTRACTS, ONE (1) ADVERTISEMENT, ONE (1) COOPERATION AGREEMENT

ASSISTANT COORDINATOR / COMPLIANCE OFFICER CHERYL FUSS REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF $49,999 WITH BILL DAVIS CEMENT CONTRACTORS ON BEHALF OF MAHANOY TOWNSHIP FOR A DEMOLITION PROJECT (21 LOWER ST).

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF $13,700 WITH AFFORDABLE CONSTRUCTION & DEMO, LLC FOR A DEMOLITION PROJECT IN REILLY TOWNSHIP (12 SPORT HILL ST).

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH SCHUYLKILL COMMUNITY ACTION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT YEARS 2025, 2026 & 2027 FOR THE HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM.

REQUESTED APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR A DEMOLITION PROJECT IN ST. CLAIR (126 BARN ST).

REQUESTED APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE BOROUGH OF ST. CLAIR FOR A DEMOLITION PROJECT AT 126 BARN STREET, ST. CLAIR.

HUMAN SERVICES – ONE (1) AGREEMENT

BLOCK GRANT MANAGER SHARON LOVE REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A PROGRAM FUNDED AGREEMENT WITH SCHUYLKILL COMMUNITY ACTION, POTTSVILLE, FOR OUTREACH CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2026, TO JUNE 30, 2027, WITH A CONTRACT CAP OF $38,432.

OFFICE OF SENIOR SERVICES – 14 ADDENDA, ONE (1) EXTEND CONTRACT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SENIOR SERVICES DEANNA ORLOWSKY REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 / 2026 WITH MID PENN LEGAL SERVICES OF HARRISBURG, PA, (CONTRACT #2026-115) FOR OMBUDSMAN SERVICES TO INCREASE THE CONTRACT CAP BY $5,535. THE DEPARTMENT OF AGING UNDER APD 26-01-04 DATED APRIL 16, 2026, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025, HAS ALLOWED FOR A 4.5% INCREASE TO THE PROVIDER. THE REVISED CONTRACT CAP IS $128,525.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 / 2026 WITH METZ CULINARY MANAGEMENT, LLC OF DALLAS, PA, FOR CONGREGATE AND IN HOME MEALS (CONTRACT #2023-203) TO ALLOW FOR A 4.5% INCREASE ON THE COST PER MEAL AS ALLOWED BY THE APD 26-01-02 EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025, DATED DECEMBER 24, 2025. THE RATE INCREASE WILL GO FROM $4.88 TO $5.10 PER MEAL EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026. THE CONTRACT CAP IS $746,640.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 / 2026 FOR CAREGIVERS AMERICA LLC OF CLARKS SUMMIT, PA, FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES TO INCREASE THE RATE ALLOWED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGING UNDER APD 26-01-04, DATED APRIL 16, 2026, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025, ALLOWING FOR A 4.5% INCREASE TO THE PROVIDER. THE RATE IS $24.41 AND WILL INCREASE TO $25.51, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026. THE CONTRACT CAP WILL REMAIN AT $443,232.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 / 2026 FOR COMPASS ROSE CARE LTD OF POTTSVILLE, PA, FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES TO INCREASE THE RATE ALLOWED BY THE DEPT OF AGING UNDER APD 26-01-04 DATED APRIL 16, 2026, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025, ALLOWING FOR A 4.5% INCREASE TO THE PROVIDER. THE RATE IS $24.41 AND WILL INCREASE TO $25.51 EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026. THE CONTRACT CAP WILL REMAIN AT $332,000.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 / 2026 FOR WATWO INC., DBA FAMILY HOME MEDICAL SUPPORT SERVICES OF MT. CARMEL, PA FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES TO INCREASE THE RATE ALLOWED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGING UNDER APD 26-01-04 DATED APRIL 16, 2026, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025 (FISCAL YEAR 2025 / 2026) ALLOWING FOR A 4.5% INCREASE TO THE PROVIDER. THE RATE IS $24.41 AND WILL INCREASE TO $25.51 EFFECTIVE AS OF JULY 1, 2026. THE CONTRACT CAP WILL REMAIN $113,584.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF FY 2025 / 2026 ADDENDUM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 / 2026 FOR MAXIMUM CARE, INC OF WHITEHALL, PA, FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES TO INCREASE THE RATE ALLOWED BY THE DEPTARTMENT OF AGING UNDER APD 26-01-04 DATED APRIL 16, 2026, EFFECTIVE

OCTOBER 1, 2025, ALLOWING FOR A 4.5% INCREASE TO THE PROVIDER. THE RATE IS $24.41 AND WILL INCREASE TO $25.51 EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026. THE CONTRACT CAP WILL REMAIN AT $82,440.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT FOR ANOTHER FISCAL YEAR 2026 / 2027, WITH MID PENN LEGAL SERVICES OF HARRISBURG, PA, FOR OMBUDSMAN SERVICES. THE CONTRACT CAP WILL BE $128,525 AND WILL REMAIN THE SAME AS THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT FOR ANOTHER FISCAL YEAR, 2026 / 2027, WITH METZ CULINARY MANAGEMENT, LLC OF DALLAS, PA, FOR CONGREGATE, AND IN HOME MEALS, WITH A CONTRACT CAP OF $746,640, SAME AS THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR. THE RATE PER UNIT IS $5.10 PER MEAL. PERFORMANCE BOND WILL FOLLOW.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH DIAKON CHILD FAMILY & COMMUNITY MINISTRIES OF MIDDLETOWN, PA, FOR FISCAL YYEAR 2026 / 2027 FOR SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTERS - $524,861, PA MEDI - $104,257, HEALTH & WELLNESS - $38,664, HEALTH & WELLNESS EVIDENCED BASED PROGRAMMING - $33,461, VOLUNTEERS SERVING SENIORS $90,662, AND IN HOME MEALS $369,395. THE CONTRACT CAP WILL BE $1,161,300.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT WITH SCHUYLKILL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF ST. CLAIR, PA, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 / 2027 FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES WITH THE SAME RATES AS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 / 2026 ADDENDUM, WHICH WERE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2026. THE CONTRACT CAP OF $86,649.50 WILL REMAIN THE SAME AS THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT FOR ANOTHER FISCAL YEAR, 2026 / 2027, WITH SERVICE ACCESS & MANAGEMENT OF POTTSVILLE, PA, FOR CAREGIVER CHECK PROCESSING. THE CONTRACT CAP WILL BE $4,800. THE PER CHECK PROCESSED RATE IS $5.00. THE CONTACT CAP AND RATE WILL REMAIN THE SAME AS THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.

REQUESTED APROVAL TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT FOR ANOTHER FISCAL YEAR, 2026 / 2027, WITH CAREGIVERS AMERICA LLC OF CLARKS SUMMIT, PA, FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES. THE RATE PER HOUR WILL REMAIN AT $25.51 AND THE CONTRACT CAP WILL REMAIN AT $443,232.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE CONTRACT FOR ANOTHER FISCAL YEAR, 2026 / /2027, WITH COMPASS ROSE CARE LTD OF POTTSVILLE, PA, FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES. THE RATE PER HOUR WILL REMAIN AT $25.51 AND THE CONTRACT CAP WILL REMAIN AT $332,000.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT FOR ANOTHER FISCAL YEAR, 2026 / 2027, WITH WATWO INC., DBA FAMILY HOME MEDICAL SUPPORT SERVICES OF MT. CARMEL, PA, FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES. THE RATE PER HOUR WILL REMAIN AT $25.51 AND THE CONTRACT CAP WILL REMAIN AT $113,584.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT ANOTHER FISCAL YEAR, 2026 / 2027, WITH MAXIMUM CARE, INC. OF WHITEHALL, PA, FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES. THE RATE PER HOUR WILL REMAIN AT $25.51 AND THE CONTRACT CAP WILL REMAIN AT $82,440.

REAL ESTATE / ENGINEERING – 15 FALL CLEAN-UP SITES, TWO (2) ADVERTISEMENTS, ONE (1) CHANGE ORDER, FIVE (5) CONTRACTS, FOUR (4) REAPPOINTMENTS

ON BEHALF OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING

DIRECTOR OF REAL ESTATE / ENGINEERING LISA MAHALL REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY'S ANNUAL FALL CLEAN UP. THE FALL CLEANUP WILL TAKE PLACE AMONG FIFTEEN (15) SITES: POTTSVILLE, MINERSVILLE BOROUGH, CES LANDFILL, GIRARDVILLE BOROUGH, NORTH MANHEIM TOWNSHIP, SCHUYLKILL HAVEN BOROUGH, WAYNE TOWNSHIP, PORTER TOWNSHIP, PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP, RINGTOWN BOROUGH, NEW RINGGOLD BOROUGH, MAHANOY CITY BOROUGH, BRANCH TOWNSHIP, EAST UNION TOWNSHIP AND TREMONT BOROUGH. THIS YEAR'S FALL CLEANUP ACCEPTED ITEMS LIST WILL INCLUDE TIRES, RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCES AND BULKY ITEMS AND IS OPEN TO ALL SCHUYLKILL COUNTY RESIDENTS. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THERE WILL NOT BE ANY ELECTRONICS ACCEPTED THIS YEAR. THE FALL CLEAN-UP WILL START ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2026, AND WILL CONCLUDE ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2026. THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WILL REIMBURSE THE COUNTY UP TO FIFTY PERCENT FOR THE COST OF THIS EVENT THROUGH THE ACT 190 GRANT. ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE EVENT, AS WELL AS THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY WEBSITE, WILL HAVE EXACT LOCATIONS PROVIDED FOR EACH SITE.

REQUESTED APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE WASTE TIRE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING. BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THE CONTROLLER'S OFFICE UNTIL 3:00 PM, JULY 13, 2026, WITH BID OPENING IN THE COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026, AT 9:00 AM WITH A TENTATIVE BID AWARDED AT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ON JULY 22, 2026.

REQUESTED APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE BULKY ITEM COLLECTION. BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THE CONTROLLER'S OFFICE UNTIL 3:00 PM, JULY 13, 2026, WITH BID OPENING IN THE COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026, AT 9:00 AM, WITH A TENTATIVE BID AWARDED AT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ON JULY 22, 2026.

ON BEHALF OF LIQUID FUELS

DIRECTOR OF REAL ESTATE / ENGINEERING LISA MAHALL REQUESTED APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #1 IN THE AMOUNT OF $40,875 WITH MULTISCAPE INC., FOR ADDITIONAL CONCRETE NEEDED FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF COUNTY BRIDGE 24 (LINE STREET OVER GOOD SPRING CREEK). THE CONTRACT TOTAL IS $1,463,577.45 AND THE PROJECT HAS BEEN COMPLETED. **IMMEDIATE APPROVAL REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER PADORA – YES COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

ON BEHALF OF PLANNING AND ZONING

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ZONING / GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS DIRECTOR SUSAN SMITH REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A LAND DEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FORM OF THE COUNTY'S STANDARD DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE APPLICANT FOR THE "PRELIMINARY – FINAL LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR RONALD K AND LUCINDA Z MARTIN POULTRY OPERATION", DATED MAY 14, 2025 AND LAST REVISED ON APRIL 30, 2026, WHICH IS LOCATED IN BARRY TOWNSHIP AND TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. THE LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN WAS CONDITIONALLY APPROVED BY THE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION AT THEIR MAY 13, 2026, MEETING.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A LAND DEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT AND STORMWATER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FORM OF THE COUNTY'S STANDARD DEVELOPMENT AND STORMWATER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE APPLICANT FOR THE "KURTZ SOLAR PROJECT FINAL LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN", DATED AUGUST 20, 2025 AND LAST REVISED ON JANUARY 26, 2026, WHICH IS LOCATED IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AND TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. THE LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN WAS CONDITIONALLY APPROVED BY THE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION AT THEIR MAY 13, 2026, MEETING.

REQUESTED APPROVAL TO REAPPOINT THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AS SCHUYLKILL COUNTY'S VOTING MEMBERS, THE FOLLOWING COUNTY AND AT-LARGE VOTING REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATES TO THE NEPA MPO TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR THE TERM JULY 1, 2026, TO JUNE 30, 2028:

- COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE: SUSAN SMITH, SCHUYLKILL COUNTY PLANNING AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS DIRECTOR
- COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATE: LISA MAHALL, PE, COUNTY REAL ESTATE DIRECTOR / ENGINEER
- AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE: JOHN MALINCHOK, IN HIS CAPACITY AS SCHUYLKILL COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR
- AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATE: CHRISTOPHER BENTZ, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE CHAIR

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH WSP USA INC OF PHILADELPHIA TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE ANTHRACITE CONNECTOR TRAIL PEER STUDY.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY WAS AWARDED A GRANT FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION (DCNR) TO CONDUCT A PEER STUDY IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED ANTHRACITE CONNECTOR TRAIL. THE ANTHRACITE CONNECTOR TRAIL IS PART OF THE 9/11 NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL AND WOULD CONNECT POTTSVILLE TO JIM THORPE IN CARBON COUNTY. THE PURPOSE OF THIS PEER STUDY IS TO IDENTIFY A PRACTICAL, SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE, OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE STRUCTURE FOR THE ANTHRACITE CONNECTOR TRAIL.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH SIMONE COLLINS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE OF NORRISTOWN TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO LEAD THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SWEET ARROW LAKE AND FROG HOLLOW MASTER SITE PLAN.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY WAS AWARDED FUNDING THROUGH THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DCNR) TO UPDATE THE MASTER SITE PLAN FOR SWEET ARROW LAKE COUNTY PARK AND EXPAND THE PLANNING EFFORT TO INCLUDE FROG HOLLOW NATURE AREA. THE PROJECT STUDY COMMITTEE REVIEWED AND EVALUATED ALL SUBMITTED PROPOSALS AND CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS WITH A SHORTLIST OF QUALIFIED FIRMS. BASED ON THAT PROCESS, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE SELECTION OF SIMONE COLLINS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AS THE CONSULTANT FOR THE PROJECT.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH SIMONE COLLINS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE OF NORRISTOWN TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO LEAD THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COUNTY PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY WAS AWARDED FUNDING THROUGH THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DCNR) TO UPDATE THE 2006 OPEN SPACE AND GREENWAY PLAN. THE PROJECT STUDY COMMITTEE REVIEWED AND EVALUATED ALL SUBMITTED PROPOSALS AND CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS WITH A SHORTLIST OF QUALIFIED FIRMS. BASED ON THAT PROCESS, THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE SELECTION OF SIMONE COLLINS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AS THE CONSULTANT FOR THE PROJECT.

TAX CLAIM OFFICE – ONE (1) PRIVATE SALE

ON BEHALF OF THE TAX CLAIM OFFICE, ASSISTANT COUNTY SOLICITOR DAVID RICE REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING PRIVATE SALE BID PURSUANT TO 72 P.S. § 5860.613.

PRIVATE SALE

Parcel Number	Owner(s) of Record	Description	Bid Amount	Bidder(s)
51-02-0030.000	Edward Charles Payne	31 Coal Street, Middleport Borough	$9,450.00	JPM Holdings, LLC

SOLICITOR'S OFFICE – ONE (1) ORDER OF COURT

ON BEHALF OF THE TAX CLAIM OFFICE, ASSISTANT COUNTY SOLICITOR DAVID RICE REQUESTED APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY SOLICITOR'S OFFICE TO ENTER INTO A JOINT STIPULATED ORDER OF COURT PURSUANT TO 72 P.S. SECTION 5551 AUTHORIZING THE COMPROMISE OF DELINQUENT TAXES, PENALTIES, AND INTEREST REGARDING THE PROPERTIES LISTED ON EXHIBIT "A". THE RESPECTIVE SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS HAVE ALL BEEN NOTIFIED AND HAVE CONSENTED TO COMPROMISE THE DELILNQUENT TAXES ON THESE PARCELS. **IMMEDIATE APPROVAL REQUESTED**.

Parcel	Tax Year	County	Funded Debt	Municipality	School	Costs	TOTAL
24-02-0028.000	2025	$13.92	$0.45	$5.98	$36.48	$65.00	**$121.83**
24-10-0082.000	2023	$344.98	$13.46	$179.44	$1,027.06	$374.91	$1,939.85
	2024	$344.98	$13.46	$179.44	$1,060.71	$55.00	$1,653.59
	2025	$381.73	$12.30	$163.92	$999.73	$65.00	$1,622.68
							$5,216.12
43-02-0045.000	2025	$233.77	$7.54	$295.89	$607.32	$65.00	$1,209.52
	2024	$211.25	$8.25	$296.42		$70.00	$585.92
		$1,530.63	**$55.46**	**$1,121.09**	**$3,731.30**	**$694.91**	**$1,795.44**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIOINER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER PADORA – YES COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

TREASURER'S OFFICE – REPORT

ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER; REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2026.

MONTHLY CASH STATEMENT TOTALS -- MAY 2026				
	BEGINNING			ENDING
ACCOUNT	BALANCE	DEPOSITS	WITHDRAWALS	BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	$8,873,996.98	$39,350,806.66	($40,282,021.06)	$7,942,782.58
OTHER COUNTY	$16,818,216.53	$12,047,109.14	($9,795,660.28)	$19,069,665.39
COUNTY AGENCIES	$6,607,194.20	$5,711,127.58	($3,629,051.26)	$8,689,270.52
INVESTMENTS	$49,541,570.29	$34,102,484.66	($11,135,000.00)	$72,509,054.95
WORKER COMPEN	$23,913.39	$57.88	($19,305.60)	$4,665.67
TOTALS	$81,864,891.39	$91,211,585.92	($64,861,038.20)	$108,215,439.11

FINANCE OFFICE

FOR INFORMATION ONLY – BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR CURRENT YEAR:

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

ADJUST BUDGETARY AUTHORITY IN THE AMOUNT OF $3,500 TO COVER AMERICA 250 COUNTY SPONSORSHIP.

MENTAL HEALTH / DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

ADJUST BUDGETARY AUTHORITY IN THE AMOUNT OF $85,000 TO COVER MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES THROUGH DECEMBER 2026.

ON BEHALF OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION FOR THE **CURRENT** YEAR: #**2026-12** FOR $1,500,000. **IMMEDIATE APPROVAL REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIOINER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER PADORA – YES COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

ON BEHALF OF HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION FOR THE **CURRENT** YEAR: **#2026-13** FOR $156,000. **IMMEDIATE APPROVAL REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIOINER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER PADORA – YES COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

ON BEHALF OF THE LUZERNE – SCHUYLKILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE LUZERNE / SCHUYLKILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD. ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE LUZERNE / SCHUYLKILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S FINANCE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES, THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD ACCEPTED THE PROJECTED BUDGET FOR PROGRAM YEAR JULY 1, 2026, TO JUNE 30, 2027, WITH A 1.98% DECREASE FROM THE PROGRAM YEAR BUDGET OF 2025.

ON BEHALF OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 2026 SCHUYLKILL COUNTY AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND, AS WELL AS AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL AND THE SERVICE PROVIDERS LISTED BELOW UPON GRANT APPROVAL. THE BOARD RECOMMENDS FUNDING FOR THE FOLLOWING SEVEN (7) PROJECTS, ALONG WITH AN ALLOCATION TO THE RESERVE ACCOUNT:

- SCH HOPE CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - PROJECT-BASED VOUCHER (PBV) HOUSING FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT **$11,000**
- SCH CO HOUSING AUTHORITY - MODERNIZATION WORK AT THE SHENANDOAH FAMILY DEVELOPMENT **$44,000**
- SERVANTS TO ALL - HOMELESS PREVENTION PROJECT **$19,000**
- SCH COMMUNITY ACTION - SCHUYLKILL COUNTY HOUSING REPAIR PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES **$59,000**
- SCH COMMUNITY ACTION - SCH CO BRIDGE HOUSE PROGRAM **$49,000**
- PAR-KING, INC. – SHENANDOAH VETERANS COMMONS **$29,000**
- SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE AND COUNSELING CTR (SARCC) – HEALING AT HOME: PERMANENT SUPPORTED HOUSING FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS $**24,000**
- ACT 137 RESERVE ACCOUNT **$8,432**

TOTAL **$243,432**

ON BEHALF OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND BOARD

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL BY KATE SPOFFORD, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING FOR SCHUYLKILL COMMUNITY ACTION, THE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY FOR THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND BOARD, THAT KEN HUEBNER, ANNE HOOVER SMITH, KAREN KENDERDINE, AND KAY WILLIAMS SERVE A TWO-YEAR TERM ON THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND BOARD. THE TERM IS JULY 1, 2026, TO JUNE 30, 2028.

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE 2025 AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND ANNUAL REPORT.

HUMAN RESOURCES -- PERSONNEL ACTIONS

HUMAN SERVICES – ONE (1) APPOINTMENT

SENIOR BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR / INVESTIGATOR ELAINE FUCCI REQUESTED APPROVAL TO APPOINT MARY KOSTURA, ST. CLAIR, PA, TO A CLERK TYPIST II POSITION, NON-UNION / NON - EXEMPT, PAY RANGE 2 / STEP 9, AT AN HOURLY RATE OF $13.9298. EFFECTIVE JUNE 29, 2026.

TAX ASSESSMENT – ONE (1) PROMOTION

SENIOR BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR / INVESTIGATOR ELAINE FUCCI REQUESTED APPROVAL TO PROMOTE CAROL FETTEROLF, GORDON, PA, FROM THE MAP TECHNICIAN POSITION TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSOR POSITION, NON – UNION / NON – EXEMPT, PAY RANGE 4, AT AN HOURLY RATE OF $18. EFFECTIVE JUNE 22, 2026. **IMMEDIATE APPROVAL REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIOINER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER PADORA – YES COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

INFORMATIONAL

COURT ADMINISTRATION – ONE (1) TRANSFER

SENIOR BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR / INVESTIGATOR ELAINE FUCCI REQUESTED APPROVAL TO TRANSFER JEAN M. DAVIS, POTTSVILLE, PA, FROM A DISTRICT JUDGE ASSISTANT I POSITION TO A JUDICIAL SECRETARY POSITION, NON – UNION / NON -EXEMPT. EFFECTIVE JULY 6, 2026.

*ALL APPOINTMENTS ARE PENDING DRUG TEST AND PHYSICAL.
*ALL ACTIONS INVOLVING SALARY OR FOR POSITIONS BEING CREATED ARE PENDING SALARY BOARD APPROVAL.

NEW BUSINESS

THERE WAS NO NEW BUSINESS TO REPORT TODAY.

ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER PADORA ADJOURNED THE MEETING.

ATTEST: _____